

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A sanding apparatus for sanding a support surface comprising:

an elongated frame having a handle end and a work end;

10 said handle end being arranged for operator control;

 said work end being adapted for connection to a working device; and

15 a stabilizer member adapted to contact and grip the support surface, said stabilizer member being disposed between said handle end and said work end;

 wherein said stabilizer member prevents the sanding apparatus from pulling away from an operator during use.

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 2. The sanding apparatus of claim 1, wherein said stabilizer member includes at least one circular rotating member mounted thereon.

25 3. The sanding apparatus of claim 2, wherein said circular rotating member includes a peripherally disposed friction layer.

30 4. The sanding apparatus of claim 3, wherein said friction layer is a rubber-like material.

5. The sanding apparatus of claim 2,
wherein said circular rotating member is weighted.

6. The sanding apparatus of claim 2,
5 wherein said stabilizer member includes a plurality
of adjacent circular rotating members; and
anti-friction washers separating said
circular rotating members.

10 7. The sanding apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said elongated frame is universally rotatable
about said stabilizer member.

8. The sanding apparatus of claim 1,
15 wherein said working device is operatively, pivotally
connected to said work end of said elongated frame.

9. The sanding apparatus of claim 8,
further including a locking member for locking said
20 working device into an operative position on said
elongated frame.

10. The sanding apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said handle end includes a handle, said
25 handle being universally rotatable about said
elongated frame.

11. The sanding apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said working device includes a housing and at
30 least one side-wheel extendedly mounted to said
housing.

12. The sanding apparatus of claim 1, wherein said working device includes a backing pad, said backing pad being of a ring-like shape.

5 13. The sanding apparatus of claim 1, wherein said elongated frame is at least partially tubular to allow for communication of sanding waste.

10 14. The sanding apparatus of claim 1, wherein said sanding apparatus includes a pair of receivers disposed at said work end of said elongated frame; and

a stand including:

15 two elongated engagement members receivable in said receivers, said engagement members being generally parallel to each other;

20 a leg extending from each engagement member generally perpendicular to said engagement members, each of said legs being disposed generally centrally along the engagement member from which it extends; and

a brace member connected to said legs at ends of said legs.

25 15. A sanding apparatus for sanding a support surface comprising:

an elongated frame having a handle end and a work end;

30 a working device including a housing, two opposing pivot ears extending from said housing, at least one side-wheel extendedly mounted to said housing, a motor mounted on said housing, and a backing pad operatively connected to said motor;

said working device being operatively connected to said work end of said elongated frame by said pivot ears;

 said handle end of said frame including a
5 handle and controls for controlling said working device;

 said frame further including a stabilizer member adapted to contact and grip the support surface, said stabilizer member being disposed
10 between said handle end and said work end;

 said stabilizer member including at least one circular rotating member mounted thereon.

16. A method for sanding a support surface
15 comprising the step of:

 providing a sanding apparatus including:
 an elongated frame having a handle end and a work end;

 said handle end being arranged for operator
20 control;

 said work end being adapted for connection to a working device; and

 a stabilizer member adapted to contact and grip the support surface, said stabilizer member
25 being disposed between said handle end and said work end of said frame;

 wherein said stabilizer member prevents the sanding apparatus from pulling away from an operator during use.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said stabilizer member includes a circular rotating member mounted thereon.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein said circular rotating member is weighted.

5. 19. An alignment tool for aligning an abrasive pad on a sanding apparatus including a rotatable backing pad, said tool comprising:

a T-shaped handle; and

three elongated locating pins;

10 said locating pins extending from a surface of said T-shaped handle and being spacedly disposed on said handle;

wherein said locating pins are insertable into apertures in the abrasive pad and backing pad.